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[Redacted]

11 November 1952

General Bedell Smith, USA
Chief, Central Intelligence Agency,
Washington, 25, D. C.

Dear General Smith:

It is only after considerable thought that I decided to write to you. I know your reputation for fairness and so therefore, I am sure that you will be interested in what I have to say.

It is my desire to call to your attention that my loyalty and background investigations have been illegally used. These investigations were conducted while I was on active duty in the United States Air Force.

Certain personnel within the Office of Special Investigations deliberately and willfully prejudiced a Physical Evaluation Board I appeared before. This was accomplished by exposing portions of my loyalty investigations. This as you know is illegal and I am sure you do not condone this practice. I am sure that you would not even if it was legal because it breaches the very security it professes to protect.

I have requested the Inspector General's Office of the Air Force to conduct an investigation to attempt to ascertain why this deplorable act was committed. Frankly, I do not expect a very satisfactory answer. It is almost too much to ask a fellow "to punch himself in the nose".

I am thoroughly disgusted and somehow a little frightened, I have heard of these things before. It brings to mind how forceably dictators use these tactics. One might well ask himself; who is protecting whom against who? Are we going to become weakened because of an over ambitious and a zealous few whom are obsessed with internal security? I wonder!

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Letter to General Smith, continued.

I believe in internal security, it is vital and necessary and certainly essential if a nation is to exist in a weary and troubled world as it is today. However, I cannot reconcile the interference of freedom of speech, academic study or religion under the guise of internal security. Most certainly it has no place in the realm of physical evaluation. I think you will agree with me..

I have been classified, by some of the brains, as a Nazi sympathizer, a communist sympathizer and a subversive character with "undesirable traits", I guess simply because I have studied a little history and am interested in geopolitics. I learned the hard way, that you cannot discuss these things with some people without their getting personal.

I have been in the reserve of the Armed Forces of the United States for over twenty years. I am a disabled veteran and it is hoped that you will take this letter in the light that it is meant to be.

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Respectfully,



First Lieutenant, USAFR

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General Bedell Smith
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25
'D.C.

